

**Claims**

1. A surface treating appliance comprising a main body having a user-operable handle, and a support assembly which is mounted to the main body and arranged to roll with respect to the main body for allowing the appliance to be rolled along a surface by means of the handle, the support assembly housing at least one component of the appliance.
2. An appliance according to claim 1 wherein the component is mounted within the support assembly such that a rolling surface of the support assembly rotates around the component.
3. An appliance according to claim 2 further comprising a shell, mounted within the support assembly, for supporting the component, and wherein the rolling surface is arranged to rotate around the shell.
4. An appliance according to claim 1 wherein the component is mounted within the support assembly such that it rotates with the support assembly during rolling movement of the support assembly.
5. An appliance according to any preceding claim wherein the support assembly comprises a fluid inlet for receiving fluid flow and a fluid outlet for exhausting fluid, and the component comprises means for acting on the fluid flow received through the inlet.
6. An appliance according to claim 5 wherein the fluid inlet is substantially coaxial with the axis of rotation of the support assembly.
7. An appliance according to any claim 5 or 6 wherein the fluid inlet comprises an inlet duct arranged to provide support between the main body and the support assembly.

8. An appliance according to claim 5, 6 or 7 wherein the fluid outlet is substantially coaxial with the axis of rotation of the support assembly.
9. An appliance according to any one of claims 5 to 8 wherein the fluid outlet comprises an outlet duct arranged to provide support between the main body and the support assembly.
10. An appliance according to any one of claim 5 to 9 wherein the fluid inlet and fluid outlet are positioned on the same side of the support assembly.
11. An appliance according to claim 10 wherein one of the fluid inlet or outlet surrounds the other of the fluid inlet or outlet.
12. An appliance according to any one of claims 5 to 11 wherein the fluid outlet comprises a plurality of apertures in the rolling surface of the support assembly.
13. An appliance according to any one of claims 5 to 12 wherein the main body comprises separating apparatus for separating entrained matter from the fluid flow.
14. An appliance according to claim 13 wherein the fluid inlet receives fluid flow from the separating apparatus.
15. An appliance according to any one of claims 5 to 14 wherein the means for acting on the fluid flow comprises a filter.
16. An appliance according to claim 15 wherein the filter has a longitudinal axis and is located within the support assembly such that fluid passes radially through the filter.

17. An appliance according to any one of claims 5 to 16 wherein the means for acting on the fluid flow comprises separating apparatus for separating entrained matter from the fluid flow.
18. An appliance according to any one of claims 5 to 17 wherein the means for acting on the fluid flow comprises suction-generating means.
19. An appliance according to claim 18 wherein the suction-generating means comprises an impeller and a motor for driving the impeller.
20. An appliance as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the component comprises, or further comprises, a motor for driving a further component of the appliance.
21. An appliance according to claim 20 wherein the further component comprises surface treating means.
22. An appliance according to claim 21 wherein the surface treating means comprises a surface agitating device.
23. An appliance according to claim 22 wherein the surface agitating device comprises a brush bar.
24. An appliance according to claim 21 wherein the surface treating means comprises a surface polishing device.
25. An appliance according to any one of claims 19 to 24 wherein the motor has a longitudinal axis that is inclined with respect to the longitudinal axis of the support assembly.

26. An appliance according to any one of claims 19 to 25 wherein the motor is housed within the support assembly such that the centre of mass of the motor is aligned with the centre of the support assembly.
27. An appliance according to any preceding claim wherein the support assembly comprises a plurality of rotatable members.
28. An appliance according to claim 27 wherein two rotatable members are spaced from each other.
29. An appliance according to claim 28 wherein a component of the appliance is located between the spaced members.
30. An appliance according to claim 28 or 29 wherein a fluid inlet or outlet is located between the spaced members.
31. A surface treating appliance, substantially as hereinbefore described, with reference to, or as illustrated in, the accompanying drawings.
32. A surface treating appliance as claimed in any preceding claim in the form of a vacuum cleaner.